

405 KAR 10:001. Definitions for 405 KAR Chapter 10.

RELATES TO: KRS Chapter 350, 7 C.F.R. Part 657, 30 C.F.R. Parts 700.5, 701.5, 707.5, 730-733, 735, 761.5, 762.5, 773.5, 800.5, 843.5, 917, 40 C.F.R. Part 136, 30 U.S.C. Chapter 25, 1253, 1255, 1291

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 350.028, 350.465, 350.500 - 350.521, 7 C.F.R. Part 657, 30 C.F.R. Parts 700.5, 701.5, 707.5, 730-733, 735, 761.5, 762.5, 773.5, 800.5, 843.5, 917, 40 C.F.R. Part 136, 30 U.S.C. 1253, 1255, 1291

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS Chapter 350 requires the cabinet to promulgate administrative regulations pertaining to surface coal mining and reclamation operations under the permanent regulatory program. This administrative regulation establishes definitions for terms used in 405 KAR Chapter 10.

Section 1. Definitions. (1) "Acquisition" means the purchase, lease, or option on the land for the purpose of conducting or allowing through resale, lease, or option the action of conducting surface coal mining and reclamation operations.

(2) "Active Acre" means an acre of land or fraction thereof, permitted and bonded for surface disturbance pursuant to a surface coal mining permit as of July 1, 2013. Active acre does not include:

(a) Acreage contained in a permit for which the entire permit has not been initially disturbed by the permittee after permit issuance;

(b) Acreage contained in a permit, or increment thereof, that has completed initial reclamation and received a minimum of a Phase 1 bond release; or

(c) Undisturbed acreage completely released from liability as a result of a bond release or bond reduction.

(3) "Actuarial soundness" is defined by KRS 350.500(1).

(4) "Adjacent area" means land located outside the affected area or permit area, depending on the context in which "adjacent area" is used, where air, surface, or groundwater, fish, wildlife, vegetation, or other resources protected by KRS Chapter 350 could be adversely impacted by surface coal mining and reclamation operations.

(5) "Affected area" means any land or water area that is used to facilitate, or is physically altered by, surface coal mining and reclamation operations. The affected area includes:

(a) The disturbed area;

(b) Any area upon which surface coal mining and reclamation operations are conducted;

(c) Any adjacent lands the use of which is incidental to surface coal mining and reclamation operations;

(d) All areas covered by new or existing roads used to gain access to, or for hauling coal to or from, surface coal mining and reclamation operations, except as established in this definition;

(e) Any area covered by surface excavations, workings, impoundments, dams, ventilation shafts, entryways, refuse banks, dumps, stockpiles, overburden piles, spoil banks, culm banks, tailings, holes or depressions, repair areas, storage areas, or shipping areas;

(f) Any areas upon which are sited structures, facilities, or other property or material on the surface resulting from, or incident to, surface coal mining and reclamation operations;

(g) The area located above underground workings associated with underground mining activities;

(h) Auger mining or in situ mining; and

(i) Every road used for the purposes of access to, or for hauling coal to or from, surface coal mining and reclamation operations, unless the road:

1. Was designated as a public road pursuant to the laws of the jurisdiction in which it is located;

2. Is maintained with public funds and constructed in a manner similar to other public roads of the same classification within the jurisdiction; and

3. There is substantial (more than incidental) public use.

(6) "Applicant" means any person seeking a permit, permit revision, permit amendment, permit renewal, or transfer, assignment, or sale of permit rights from the cabinet to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations pursuant to KRS Chapter 350 and all applicable administrative regulations.

(7) "Cabinet" is defined by KRS 350.010(10).

(8) "C.F.R." means Code of Federal Regulations.

(9) "Coal" means combustible carbonaceous rock, classified as anthracite, bituminous, sub-bituminous, or lignite by ASTM Standard D 388-77.

(10) "Coal mined and sold" means coal severed or removed as a result of surface coal mining operations and subsequently sold, transferred, or used by the permittee or operator.

(11) "Collateral bond" means an indemnity agreement in a sum certain payable to the cabinet executed by the permittee and supported by the deposit with the cabinet of cash, negotiable certificates of deposit, or an irrevocable letter of credit of any bank organized and authorized to transact business in the United States.

(12) "Cropland" means land used for the production of adapted crops for harvest, alone or in a rotation with grasses and legumes, and includes row crops, small grain crops, hay crops, nursery crops, orchard crops, and other similar specialty crops.

(13) "Day" means calendar day unless otherwise specified to be a working day.

(14) "Department" means the Department for Natural Resources.

(15) "Disturbed area" means an area where vegetation, topsoil, or overburden is removed or upon which topsoil, spoil, coal processing waste, underground development waste, or noncoal waste is placed by surface coal mining operations. Those areas are classified as "disturbed" until reclamation is complete and the performance bond or other assurance of performance required by 405 KAR Chapter 10 is released.

(16) "Dormancy fee" means the annual fee established in KRS 350.518(2)(f).

(17) "FDIC" means Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

(18) "Federal lands" means any lands, including mineral interests, owned by the United States, without regard to how the United States acquired ownership of the lands or which agency manages the lands. It does not include Indian lands.

(19) "Final disposition" means the status of an enforcement action taken by the cabinet pursuant to KRS Chapter 350 for which a final secretary's order has been entered and the time for appeal has expired or all appeals have been exhausted, or an agreed order has been entered.

(20) "FSLIC" means Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation.

(21) "Full-cost bonding" means performance bonds that have been submitted by a permittee for its surface coal mining operation permits in lieu of participation and membership in the Kentucky Reclamation Guaranty Fund.

(22) "Historically used for cropland" means land that:

(a) Has been used for cropland for any five (5) years or more out of the ten (10) years immediately preceding the:

1. Application; or

2. Acquisition of the land for the purpose of conducting surface coal mining and reclamation operations;

(b) Would likely have been used as cropland for any five (5) out of the last ten (10) years immediately preceding the acquisition or the application but for some fact of ownership or con-

trol of the land unrelated to the productivity of the land; or

(c) The cabinet determines, on the basis of additional cropland history of the surrounding land and the land under consideration, are clearly cropland but fall outside the specific five (5) years in ten (10) criterion.

(23) "Impoundment" means a closed basin, naturally formed or artificially built, which is dammed or excavated for the retention of water, sediment, or waste.

(24) "KRGF" means the Kentucky Reclamation Guaranty Fund.

(25) "Land use" means specific functions, uses, or management-related activities of an area, and could be identified in combination when joint or seasonal uses occur and could include land used for support facilities that are an integral part of the use. In some instances, a specific use can be identified without active management.

(26) "Member" means a permittee in the Kentucky Reclamation Guaranty Fund.

(27) "Non-production fee" means the annual fee established in KRS 350.518(2)(e).

(28) "Notice of noncompliance and order for remedial measures" means a written document and order prepared by an authorized representative of the cabinet that establishes with specificity the violations of KRS Chapter 350, 405 KAR Chapters 7 through 24, or permit conditions that the authorized representative of the cabinet determines to have occurred based upon an inspection, and the necessary remedial actions, if any, and the time schedule for completion thereof, necessary and appropriate to correct the violations.

(29) "Operations" is defined by KRS 350.010(6).

(30) "Operator" is defined by KRS 350.010(8).

(31) "Opt-out" means the decision by a permittee to not participate in the KRGF and to provide full-cost bonding pursuant to 405 KAR 10:080.

(32) "Order for cessation and immediate compliance" means a written document and order issued by an authorized representative of the cabinet when:

(a) A person to whom a notice of noncompliance and order for remedial measures was issued has failed, as determined by a cabinet inspection, to comply with the terms of the notice of noncompliance and order for remedial measures within the time limits set therein, or as subsequently extended; or

(b) The authorized representative finds, on the basis of a cabinet inspection, any condition or practice or any violation of KRS Chapter 350, 405 KAR Chapters 7 through 24, or any condition of a permit or exploration approval that:

1. Creates an imminent danger to the health or safety of the public; or

2. Is causing or can reasonably be expected to cause significant, imminent environmental harm to land, air, or water resources.

(33) "ORGF" means the Office of the Reclamation Guaranty Fund.

(34) "Owned or controlled" and "owns or controls" mean any one (1) or a combination of the relationships established in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this definition:

(a)1. Being a permittee of a surface coal mining operation;

2. Based on instruments of ownership or voting securities, owning of record in excess of fifty (50) percent of an entity; or

3. Having any other relationship that gives one (1) person authority directly or indirectly to determine the manner in which an applicant, an operator, or other entity conducts surface coal mining operations; and

(b) One (1) of the following relationships, which constitutes ownership or control unless a person demonstrates that the person subject to the presumption does not in fact have the authority directly or indirectly to determine the manner in which the relevant surface coal mining operation is conducted:

1. Being an officer or director of an entity;

2. Being the operator of a surface coal mining operation;
3. Having the ability to commit the financial or real property assets or working resources of an entity;
4. Being a general partner in a partnership;
5. Based on the instruments of ownership or the voting securities of a corporate entity, owning of record ten (10) through fifty (50) percent of the entity; or
6. Owning or controlling coal to be mined by another person under a lease, sublease, or other contract and having the right to receive the coal after mining or having authority to determine the manner in which that person or another person conducts a surface coal mining operation.

(35) "Performance bond" means a surety bond, a collateral bond, or a combination thereof, or bonds filed pursuant to the provisions of the Kentucky Reclamation Guaranty Fund (405 KAR 10:070, KRS 350.595, and 350.500 – 350.521), by which a permittee assures faithful performance of all the requirements of KRS Chapter 350, 405 KAR Chapters 7 through 24, and the requirements of the permit and reclamation plan.

(36) "Permit" means written approval issued by the cabinet to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations.

(37) "Permit area" means the area of land, indicated on the approved map submitted by the permittee with an application, required to be covered by the permittee's performance bond pursuant to 405 KAR Chapter 10 and that includes the area of land upon which the permittee proposes to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations pursuant to the permit, including all disturbed areas. Areas adequately bonded under another valid permit, pursuant to 405 KAR Chapter 10, could be excluded from the permit area.

(38) "Permittee" means an operator or a person holding or required by KRS Chapter 350 or 405 KAR Chapters 7 through 24 to hold a permit to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations during the permit term and until all reclamation obligations imposed by KRS Chapter 350 and 405 KAR Chapters 7 through 24 are satisfied.

(39) "Person" is defined by KRS 350.010(9).

(40) "Person having an interest which is or may be adversely affected" or "person with a valid legal interest" includes any person:

(a) Who uses any resource of economic, recreational, aesthetic, or environmental value that could be adversely affected by coal exploration or surface coal mining and reclamation operations, or by any related action of the cabinet; or

(b) Whose property is or could be adversely affected by coal exploration or surface coal mining and reclamation operations, or by any related action of the cabinet.

(41) "Prime farmland" means those lands defined by the Secretary of Agriculture in 7 C.F.R. 657 and that have been "historically used for cropland".

(42) "Reclamation" is defined by KRS 350.010(12).

(43) "Secretary" is defined by KRS 350.010(11).

(44) "SMCRA" means Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act, 30 U.S.C. Chapter 25 of 1977 (PL 95-87), as amended.

(45) "Surety bond" means an indemnity agreement in a sum certain, payable to the cabinet and executed by the permittee, which is supported by the performance guarantee of a corporation licensed to do business as a surety in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

(46) "Surface coal mining and reclamation operations" is defined by KRS 350.010(3).

(47) "Surface coal mining operations" is defined by KRS 350.010(1).

(48) "Suspended solids" or nonfilterable residue, expressed as milligrams per liter, means organic or inorganic materials carried or held in suspension in water which are retained by a standard glass fiber filter in the procedure outlined by the U.S. EPA's regulations for waste wa-

ter and analyses (40 C.F.R. 136).

(49) "Ton" means 2,000 pounds avoirdupois (.90718 metric ton).

(50) "Topsoil" means the A and E soil horizon layers of the four (4) master soil horizons.

(51) "U.S. EPA" means United States Environmental Protection Agency.

(52) "Voluntary Bond Pool" is defined by KRS 350.500(5).

(53) "Willfully" and "willful violation" mean that a person acted either intentionally, voluntarily, or consciously, and with intentional disregard or plain indifference to legal requirements, in authorizing, ordering, or carrying out an act or omission that constituted a violation of SMCRA, KRS Chapter 350, 405 KAR Chapters 7 through 24, or a permit condition, or that constituted a failure or refusal to comply with an order issued pursuant to SMCRA, KRS Chapter 350, or 405 KAR Chapters 7 through 24. (18 Ky.R. 2468; Am. 2842; eff. 4-3-1992; TAm eff. 8-9-2007; 40 Ky.R. 428; 1058; eff. 11-7-2013; 44 Ky.R. 625, 1307; eff. 1-5-2018.)